INTRODUCING THE LÆRA INSTITUTE FOR CIRCUMPOLAR EDUCATION

7th UK Arctic Science Conference

Durham University
Durham, UK | 11 April 2022
UArctic founded in 2001 to promote circumpolar collaboration in education, research and outreach

Canada
35 members

Denmark/Greenland/Faroes
13 members

Finland
16 members

Iceland
10 members

Norway
15 members

Russia
52 members

Sweden
7 members

USA
30 members

Non–Arctic
34 members

‘Empower people of Circumpolar North by providing unique educational and research opportunities’

Source: UArctic
10 British institutions are currently members of UArctic, including 7 Scottish universities in ‘Scotland-Arctic Network’

Perhaps your institution should be amongst them?

Source: UArctic, universities shown (logos)
UArctic created Circumpolar Studies as undergraduate core curriculum available for use by all member institutions.

UArctic CS Core Curriculum

- Introduction to the Circumpolar World
- Land and Environment of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Peoples and Cultures of the Circumpolar World I & II
- Contemporary Issues of the Circumpolar World I & II

All UArctic students eligible to take CS courses—taught online even before pandemic.

Source: Shared Voices: The UArctic Magazine (2017); UArctic
Læra Institute established in autumn 2020 to help renew and revitalise UArctic Circumpolar Studies programme

Læra Institute founding and steering partners

TRENT UNIVERSITY

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Lakehead UNIVERSITY

NORD University

STATE AGROTECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY ARCTIC

Yukon University

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

(participation paused)

(joined 2021)

All UArctic faculty welcome to contribute to work of Læra Institute

Source: Læra Institute; universities shown (logos)
Læra Institute promotes shared understanding of Circumpolar Studies and borderless academic community

- **Curriculum criteria**: Detailed topic specifications for Circumpolar Studies, to help UArctic members develop locally appropriate courses based on shared understanding.

- **Exemplar materials**: Example Circumpolar Studies courses and teaching resources, which UArctic members can use as models, adapt to local needs or teach ‘off-the-shelf’.

- **Faculty workshop**: Regular meeting of UArctic member faculty teaching Circumpolar Studies courses, to share pedagogical research, best-practice and local insights.

- **Student symposia**: Regular meeting of UArctic member undergraduate students, to share learning, present own research and collaborate on joint activities.

*Source: Læra Institute*

*Recordings and transcript of first faculty workshop ‘Circumpolar Studies Is...’ available on our website*
Læra Institute reaches out to wider academy by sponsoring conference sessions on Circumpolar Studies education

Calls for abstracts announced on our website

Source: Læra Institute; conference organisers shown (logos)
We have upcoming plans in which UArctic faculty and students are most welcome to be involved

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End summer 2022</td>
<td>Roll-out of first set of Circumpolar Studies curriculum criteria and exemplar pedagogical material</td>
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<tr>
<td>Autumn 2022</td>
<td>Second faculty workshop in conjunction with 4th UArctic Congress (pending announcement of alternative venue or hybrid/online format)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring 2023</td>
<td>First undergraduate student symposium (planned as in-person/hybrid event originally postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rolling</td>
<td>Continued delivery of UArctic CS courses, and continued sponsorship of conference sessions on CS educational innovation and pedagogy</td>
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Don’t hesitate to be in touch if you’d like to take part

Source: Læra Institute
Thank you

Dr Anthony Speca

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